

Decision-Making Support Options in North Carolina

Supported Decision-Making

- Person makes their own decisions
- Person and team determine and document needed supports
- Person receives support from team when needed
- Can be completed formally or informally

Advance Directive

- Person makes their own decisions
- Form documents medical/mental health wishes for others to make for them if incapacitated
- Legal document – can be completed with an attorney but not required

Representative Payee

- Person makes their own decisions
- Person receives support to manage state and federal benefits (i.e. SSI, SSDI, etc.)
- Formal process of Representative Payee appointment completed by Social Security Administration

Power of Attorney

- Person participates in as many decisions as possible
- Another person makes decisions defined in specific circumstances as documented
- Legal document – typically prepared with assistance from an attorney

Guardianship

- Person's ability to make decisions may be limited
- Legal appointment of substitute decision-maker through court process
- Court ordered relationship to make personal decisions, financial decisions, or both
 - Anyone may file a motion to the court for a hearing to restore rights

Additional Resources to Learn More About...

Supported Decision-Making

- [Autism Society of NC](#)
- [First in Families NC](#)
- [National Resource Center for Supported Decision-Making](#)

Advance Directive

- [Medical Care Decisions and Advance Directives: What You Should Know](#)
- [Secretary of State Forms](#)

Representative Payee

- [Find your local Social Security Office](#)

Power of Attorney

- [Secretary of State Forms](#)
- [Power of Attorney Form Examples/Options](#)

Guardianship and Alternatives

- Types of Guardianship include Guardian of the Person, Guardian of the Estate, and General Guardian
 - NC Courts-[About Guardianship in NC](#)
 - [Find your local Court](#)
- [The Arc of North Carolina-Guardianship](#)
- [Disability Rights NC-Self-Determination and Guardianship](#)
 - [Rights Restoration](#)
- [Rethinking Guardianship](#)